Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the

application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Cancelled).

2.   (Currently amended) ~~The video file server as claimed in claim 1,~~

A video file server for providing clients with video-on-demand access to movies, the

video file server comprising:

a cached disk storage system including a primary cache and disk storage for storing the

movies; and

a multiplicity of data mover computers coupled to the cached disk storage system for

streaming video data from the cached disk storage system to clients in a data network, each of

the data mover computers having a local cache;

wherein the movies are ranked with respect to popularity, and a respective set of the data

movers are pre-assigned for servicing video streams for each movie ranking; and

wherein the data movers in the respective sets of data movers are configured differently

for providing more network interface resources for very popular movies and for providing more

local cache memory resources for less popular movies.

3.   (Original) The video file server as claimed in claim 2, wherein for very popular movies,

the very popular movies are retained in their entirety in local cache of the data movers assigned

to service the very popular movies.

4.   (Currently amended) The video file server as claimed in claim [[1]] 2, wherein the sets

of data movers include a set consisting of more than one data mover for servicing one very

popular movie, a set consisting of one data mover for servicing only one movie, and a set

consisting of one data mover for servicing a plurality of the movies.

5.   (Currently amended) The video file server as claimed in claim [[1]] 2, wherein a series

of at least some of the data movers include direct links for transfer of movie data from a data

mover set servicing one movie ranking to a data mover set servicing a next higher movie ranking

and for transfer of movie data from the data mover set servicing the one movie ranking to a data

mover set servicing a next lower movie ranking.

6.   (Currently amended) The video file server as claimed in claim [[1]] 2, wherein data

mover resources for a certain number of video streams from the data movers to the clients are

reserved for each of a multiplicity of the movies.

7.   (Currently amended) The video file server as claimed in claim [[1]] 2, wherein the video

file server is programmed for locking in the primary cache a plurality of entire movies, and when

there is a need for servicing a more popular movie from the primary cache and there is

insufficient free cache memory for servicing the more popular movie from the primary cache,

transferring the servicing of a less popular movie from the primary cache to disk storage in order

to free cache memory for servicing the more popular movie from the primary cache.

8.   (Original) The video file server as claimed in claim 7, wherein the video file server is

programmed for freeing primary cache memory by transferring the servicing of a least popular

movie in the primary cache from the primary cache to the disk storage so long as no more than a

certain number of video streams are being serviced concurrently from the least popular movie in

the primary cache.

9.   (Currently amended) The video file server as claimed in claim [[1]] 2, wherein the video

file server is programmed for negotiating with a client for selection of an available movie during

peak demand when resources are not available to select freely any movie in the disk storage for

which a video stream can be started.

10.   (Original) A video file server for providing clients with video-on-demand access to

movies, the video file server comprising:

a cached disk storage system including a cache and disk storage for storing the movies;

and

a multiplicity of data mover computers coupled to the cached disk storage system for

streaming video data from the cached disk storage system to clients in a data network;

wherein the video file server is programmed for locking in the cache a plurality of entire

movies, and when there is a need for servicing a more popular movie from the cache and there is

insufficient free cache memory for servicing the more popular movie from the cache, transferring

the servicing of a less popular movie from the cache to disk storage in order to free cache

memory for servicing the more popular movie from the cache.

11.   (Original) The video file server as claimed in claim 10, wherein the video file server is

programmed for freeing locked cache memory by transferring the servicing of the least popular

movie in the cache from the cache to the disk storage so long as no more than a certain number

of video streams are being concurrently serviced from the least popular movie in the cache.

12.   (Original) The video file server as claimed in claim 10, wherein each of the data mover

computers has a local cache, the movies are ranked with respect to popularity, and a respective

set of the data movers are pre-assigned for servicing video streams for each movie ranking, and

the data movers in the respective sets of data movers are configured differently for providing

more network interface resources for very popular movies and for providing more local cache memory resources for less popular movies.

13.   (Original) The video file server as claimed in claim 10, wherein a series of at least some of the data movers include direct dedicated links for transfer of movie data from a data mover set servicing one movie ranking to a data mover set servicing a next higher movie ranking and for transfer of movie data from the data mover set servicing the one movie ranking to the data mover set servicing a next lower movie ranking.

14.   (Original) The video file server as claimed in claim 10, wherein data mover resources for a certain number of video streams from the data movers to the clients are reserved for each of a multiplicity of the movies.

15.   (Cancelled).

16.   (Currently amended) ~~The method as claimed in claim 15,~~

A method of operating a video file server for providing clients with video-on-demand access to movies, the video file server having a cached disk storage system including a primary cache and disk storage containing the movies, and a multiplicity of data mover computers coupled to the cached disk storage system for streaming video data from the cached disk storage system to clients in a data network, each of the data mover computers having a local cache, wherein the method includes:

ranking the movies with respect to popularity, and assigning a respective set of the data

movers to each movie ranking, and

servicing video streams for each movie ranking with the respective set of data movers

assigned for servicing said video streams for said each movie ranking; and

which includes configuring differently the data movers in the respective sets of data

movers in order to provide more network interface resources for very popular movies and for

providing more local cache memory resources for less popular movies.

17.   (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~15~~ 16, which includes, for very

popular movies, retaining the very popular movies in their entirety in the local cache of the data

movers assigned to service the very popular movies.

18.   (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~15~~ 16, which includes servicing a

most popular movie with an assigned data mover set consisting of more than one data mover,

servicing only one movie with an assigned data mover set consisting of one data mover, and

servicing a plurality of movies with an assigned data mover set consisting of one data mover.

19.   (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~15~~ 16, wherein a series of at least

some of the data movers are linked by direct dedicated data links and the method includes

transferring movie data from a data mover set servicing one movie ranking to a data mover set

servicing a next higher movie ranking and transferring movie data from a data mover set

servicing the one movie ranking to a data mover set servicing a next lower movie ranking.

20.   (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~15~~ 16, which includes reserving

data mover resources for a respective number of video streams from the data movers to the

clients for each of a multiplicity of the movies.

21.   (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~15~~ 16, which includes locking in

the primary cache a plurality of entire movies, and when there is a need for servicing a more

popular movie from the primary cache and there is insufficient free cache memory for servicing

the more popular movie from the primary cache, transferring the servicing of a less popular

movie from the primary cache to the disk storage in order to free primary cache memory for

servicing the more popular movie from the primary cache.

22.   (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~15~~ 16, which includes freeing

primary cache memory by transferring the servicing of a least popular movie in the primary

cache from the primary cache to the disk storage so long as no more than a certain number of

video streams are being concurrently serviced from the least popular movie in the primary cache.

23.   (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~15~~ 16, which includes the video

file server negotiating with a client for selection of an available movie during peak demand

when resources are not available to select freely any movie in the disk storage for which a video stream can be started.

24.   (Original) A method of operating a video file server for providing clients with video-on-demand access to movies, the video file server having a cached disk storage system including a cache and disk storage containing the movies, and a multiplicity of data mover computers coupled to the cached disk storage system for streaming video data from the cached disk storage system to clients in a client data network, the method comprising:

locking in the cache a plurality of entire movies, and when there is a need for servicing a more popular movie from the cache and there is insufficient free cache memory for servicing the more popular movie from the cache, transferring the servicing of a less popular movie from the cache to the disk storage in order to free cache memory for servicing the more popular movie from the cache.

25.   (Original) The method as claimed in claim 24, which includes the video file server freeing locked cache memory by transferring the servicing of a least popular movie in the cache from the cache to the disk storage so long as no more than a certain number of video streams are being concurrently serviced from the least popular movie in the cache.

26.   (Original) The method as claimed in claim 24, wherein each of the data mover computers has a local cache, the method includes ranking the movies with respect to popularity, assigning a respective set of the data movers for servicing video streams for each movie ranking,

and configuring the data movers in the respective sets of data movers differently for providing more network interface resources for very popular movies and for providing more local cache memory resources for less popular movies.